

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 3 are amended to clarify the recitation and to avoid the formal rejection under 35 USC 112.

Claim 2 is deleted.

The Examiner asserts that the use of displays or units to describe the same element is confusing.

The applicant respectfully traverses this assertion as follows.

On page 4, lines 12 to 20, there is descriptions that the basic display includes an image display section and a support frame surrounding the image display section and that the basic unit includes a plurality of basic displays adjacently arranged in at least either one of vertical direction and horizontal direction. Therefore, the basic display and the basic unit are not the same element, so that the Examiner's assertion described above is incorrect.

The Examiner rejects claim 1 as being anticipated by Fowler et al. under 35 U.S.C 102(e). The Examiner also rejects claim 1 as being anticipated by Maguire, Jr. under 35 U.S.C 102(b). The Examiner rejects claims 2 and 3 as being unpatentable over Fowler et al. in view of Bonar under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). The Examiner also rejects claims 2 and 3 as being unpatentable over Maguire, Jr. in view of Bonar under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

New claim 1 is incorporated with the feature of previous claim 2 and previous claim 2 has been canceled. Further, new claim 1 is incorporated with the feature "vertical king-pin". This feature is clearly supported by Fig. 13.

Reconsideration is requested.

According to the invention as claimed in new claim 1, there is provided a multi-display device, wherein (i) a plurality of basic displays or basic units are horizontally arranged, a central basic display or central basic unit is supported and held in an inclined state by an inclination mechanism, lateral basic displays or lateral basic units are connected to and supported on the central basic display or central basic unit respectively by hinge members so that a distance between upper portions of adjacent central and lateral basic displays or basic units is different from a distance between lower portions of the adjacent central and lateral basic displays or basic units, and

wherein (ii) a distance between a connection position of a leaf of the hinge member to the basic display or basic unit and a center of a vertical king-pin of the hinge member at an upper side portion of the hinge member is different from one at a lower side portion thereof, and the king-pin is free from the basic displays or basic units.

According to the structure (i), even in a case where, in order to easily observe the displayed image entirely by the multi-display device, the central basic display or central basic unit is inclined vertically so that the upper side portion of the image screen is apart from the user, and the right and left (i.e., lateral) image screens adjacent to the inclined central image screen is inclined

horizontally forward (towards the user) with respect to the central image screen, the image screens can be clearly observed even in the inclination of the lower end portion of the lateral (right and left) basic display or lateral basic unit, by correcting the inclination.

Further, according to the structure (ii), especially according to the feature that the king-pin of the hinge member is free from the basic displays or basic units, the king-pin maintains its vertical position while the central basic display or basic unit is inclined, so that the action of gravity on the weight of the lateral basic display or basic unit does not cause the lateral basic display or basic unit to self-open.

On the contrary, Fowler et al. does not disclose such feature described above. Further, in Maguire, Jr., since the king-pin of the hinge member is attached to the basic displays or basic units, the king-pin has an inclined position while the central basic display or basic unit is inclined, so that the action of gravity on the weight of the lateral basic display or basic unit causes the lateral basic display or basic unit to self-open. Furthermore, in Bonar, since the king-pin of the hinge member is attached to the post, the king-pin has an inclined position when the post is inclined, so that the action of gravity on the weight of the gate causes the gate to self-close.

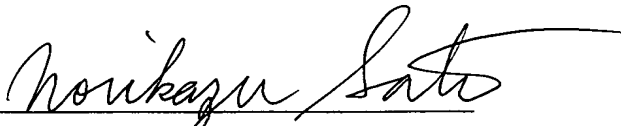
Therefore, new claim 1 has novelty and inventive step over Fowler et al. and Maguire, Jr.

In addition, invention as claimed in claim 3 has inventive step, because it depends on the independent claim 1 having inventive step.

As described above, the inventions as claimed in new claims 1 and 3 are patentable.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of all pending claims respectfully is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Norikazu Sato

2-46-8, Unoki, Ohtaku
Tokyo, 146-0091
Japan

Dated: January 21, 2009